APPLICANT FEEDBACK SUMMARY 2013 AmeriCorps State and National Grant Competition

Legal Applicant: Knoxville Knox County Community Action Committee **Application ID:** 13ES145176

Program Name: Knox County CAC Americorps

For the purpose of enhancing our programs by improving the quality and quantity of applications to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), we are providing specific feedback regarding the strengths and weaknesses of this application. These comments are not meant to represent a comprehensive assessment; rather the analysis represents those elements that had the greatest bearing on the rating of the application. Please note that this feedback consists of summary comments from more than one reviewer. For this reason, some of the comments may seem to be inconsistent or contradictory. Comments are not representative of all of the information used in the final funding decision.

Reviewers' Summary Comments:

- (+) The applicant provides several pieces of relevant, compelling, and objective evidence to document the identified needs.
- (+) The applicant provides several pieces of evidence to document the community as economically disadvantaged, including U.S. Census Data.
- (+) The applicant uses data from several federal and state agencies to show the severity of the need for environmental stewardship especially as it relates to improving water quality. These data show over 250 miles of streams in the county are impaired.
- (+) The application gives a clear statement of why the population served was targeted: they are disproportionately affected by environmental degradation, and this endangers their health.
- (+) The applicant is clear about how many Members it requires and specifically shows how their time will be divided amongst the many interventions.
- (+) The applicant specifies Members interventions and service including at a National Park and local parks, and with other local agencies.
- (+) The applicant gives evidence-based and/or evidence-informed citations for every need listed in their needs statement. The evidence is compelling and well documented.
- (+) The performance targets are based on current, relevant data and supported by prior successes of the applicant.
- (-) It is unclear whether the applicant would be able to accomplish the goals of the program without the Members.
- (-) Parts of the program design address needs that are not documented within the needs section.

(-) The applicant is not clear on how it will measure the overall change it expects to see.
(-) Childhood obesity and how it relates to environmental education is important, but does not directly correlate with the needs statement.